

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Courier.]

# TRIAL OF THE REV. E. K. AVERY.

Newport, R. I. Tuesday, March 5th, 1833.

The Court opened this morning at 9 o'clock, but the State Attorney not having arrived, it adjourned until 3 P. M., at which hour the steam-boat which brings you this will leave. The numerous witnesses were all in attendance, but there is very little probability that the grand jury will conclude their examination before the end of the week. The town is full of strangers, many of them from long distances: and notwithstanding every known fact of the case has been so long and so thoroughly discussed in this neighborhood, the local excitement seems to increase rather than to abate. Avery is said to express perfect confidence in his acquittal, though few persons here, except his most infatuated partisans (for such he actually has) give him credit for sincerity. He is shown the utmost indulgence, and permitted to have unrestricted intercourse with every one whom he wishes to see. His visitors—with a blush he it said and read—are principally females, who pray with him, and emulate each other in administering to his spiritual consolation. It has been judiciously remarked, that the interest of Methodism in the abstract has suffered, and will suffer, much more severely from the premature and seeming devotedness of a large number of its professors to this man's dubious cause, than it could possibly have done from the strongest proofs of his individual guilt.—The latter would exhibit the frailty of but one member of that numerous community, whilst the former displays the scarcely less revolting frailty of many. Avery's unfortunate wife, however, who is said to be a most amiable and worthy woman, is truly an object of the deepest sympathy. She has lately given birth to another child, and in more than the usual portion of woman's destined "sorrow has she brought it forth."

Newport, R. I. Tuesday, March 5, 1833.

At half past ten o'clock this morning the grand jury entered the court room, and announced that they had found a true bill of indictment against the Rev. Ephraim K. Avery, for the murder of Sarah Maria Cornell.—The court ordered that the accused be forthwith arraigned, and shortly afterwards he was brought in by the Sheriff and accommodated with a chair beside Mr. Randolph, his counsel. The prisoner is a man of very respectable appearance, about 5 feet eleven inches in height, and thirty-six or seven years of age. He is considered handsome; his forehead is high and unfurrowed, of good breadth at its lower division, but upwards much contracted, his eye-brows are regular, and, tho' nearly united above the nose, are not heavy; the nose itself is slightly aquiline and delicately refined, but his lips are rather too thick to symmetrize well with the upper features. From his wearing spectacles of a purple hue the character and expression of his eyes were concealed from the persons sitting opposite to him, but to us, more favorably seated for observing them, they appeared singularly inexpressive both of feeling and of thought. His head and features altogether, though smaller than they are generally found in the physiognomical class to which they distinctly belong, presented nothing remarkable, except in one strongly developed phenological peculiarity behind the ear—which may nevertheless have been equally conspicuous on the cranium of Howard the philanthropist. The indictment contained three counts:—1st Choking and strangling; 2d. Strangling and hanging; 3d. Beating and choking; the last embraced the bruises and abrasions of the unfortunate young woman. The clerk of the court read the indictment with a degree of feeling which almost amounted to embarrassment; and there was not, perhaps, more than one countenance among the audience which was not blanched by its shocking and recapitulated details. But the prisoner attentively listened to every horrid particularity with a self-possession so consummate and imperturbable that it appeared to us little less than a moral phenomenon, in a man situated as he was, whether he be innocent or guilty of the dreadful crime with which he stood accused.

The band which he held up during the whole time occupied in reading the indictment, trembled not, nor was the curve of a finger or a line of his face discomposed; even his eye exhibited nothing but calm attention to the language of his accusation. At length, however, large drops of perspiration appeared on his upper lip; but this was all: they were occasionally and slowly wiped off, with a hand as untremulous as the other. To the usual question of guilt or innocence, he replied, "Not guilty, sir," with a slight degree of emphasis.

**Public Lands Bill.**—Among the amendments made to this bill before its recent passage, was one authorizing the Legislatures of the States to apply the sums that might be received under its provisions, to such purposes as they should direct. The general provisions of the bill were, that 12 1-2 per cent. upon the net amount of the sales of the public lands, in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi and Louisiana, should be paid to those States respectively, in addition to what they are now entitled to receive by the terms of their admission into the Union; and that the residue of the net proceeds of the sales of public lands in those States and elsewhere, should be divided among the several States, according to the ratio of their federal representative population. These appropriations were however to cease, from the commencement of hostilities, in the event of war with any foreign power, within five years. Grants of 500,000 acres were also made to Mississippi, Louisiana, and Missouri, of 115,292 to Indiana, 100,000 to Alabama, and of 20,000 to Illinois, lying within their respective limits, the net proceeds of which were to be applied to the purposes of internal improvement; but these lands were not to be disposed of for less than \$1 25 per acre, until otherwise directed by law. A sum not exceeding \$80,000 was to be annually applied during the period of distribution for the completion of the surveys of the public lands, and the minimum price at which the lands are now sold, was not to be increased, or if it were, the distribution of the proceeds among the States was to cease.—This general statement is derived from a more extensive one in the New-York Journal of Commerce, the bill not yet having been published in its amended form.—*Boat. Mess.*

New-York, March 13.

The foreign news received by the Philadelphia from London, is a few days later only than that before received. We are indebted to Capt. Champlin for late London papers.

The British Parliament was soon to assemble for business; and among the subjects which will occupy its earliest attention, must be the situation of Ireland, where the greatest excitement existed. O'Connell was agitating with unbounded influence, and troops were going by thousands from England to maintain the supremacy of the Government.

The Dutch question seems to be drawing to a close. The Scheldt had been declared open to all nations but England and France. A speedy settlement of the question between Belgium and Holland would soon open it to them also.

The King of Spain has resumed his functions as sovereign.

The French King was still occupied with his reviews at Lille, and with rewarding his troops.

There is nothing of interest from Portugal, unless it be the fact, that Lord Hervey, the British Plenipotentiary, had gone to Lisbon from Madrid, with a view, it was supposed, of inducing the contending parties to agree to an armistice, and ultimately settling their claims by negotiation, rather than the sword.

The Egyptians were still advancing successfully against the Turks. The safety of the Ottoman Empire will next, it is conjectured, become the subject of Conferences and Protocols among the great powers.

## THE TARIFF.

The Tariff bill which we published last week, having passed both Houses of Congress and received the signature of the President, has now become the law of the land. As it is destined ultimately, if it continues in force during the period contemplated in the bill itself, to effect a great reduction of the protection at present enjoyed by the manufacturers, it may be gratifying to trace its operation on some of the most important products of American industry.

The bill provides "that until the 30th day of June 1842 the duties imposed by existing laws, as modified by this act, shall remain, and continue to be collected." To ascertain the rate of duties, (and consequently of protection) which will be in force down to June 1842, it is necessary to consider in the first place what are the "duties imposed by existing laws." These may be ascertained by reference to the act of July, 1832. We have before us, in a report of the Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, at the session just closed, a tabular statement of the duties imposed on imports by the act of 1832. For the purpose of applying the principles of the new bill, the duties imposed by that act may be considered under three heads.

1. When the duties exceed 20 per cent.—This class embraces Wool costing more than 8 cents per lb. duty, supposed equal to 54 per cent. Woollens costing over 35 cents the square yard, duty 50 per cent. Hosiery, Gloves, Mitts, Bindings, Blankets, costing over 75 cents each, and all Carpetings except Brussels, Venetian and Ingrain, duty 25 per cent. Cottons white or brown, 25 per cent. on a minimum of 30 cents the square yard, average duty equal to 42 1-2 per cent. Cottons, dyed, colored, &c. 25 per cent. on a minimum of 35 cents per square yard, average duty 42 1-2 per cent. Do. all costing over the above minimum prices 25 per cent. Sewing Silk, Paper Hangings, 40 per cent.—Manufactures of Wood, Leather, Marble, Saddlery, Bridle Bits, Hats, Cutting and Drawing Knives, Steelyards, Wood Screws, 30 per cent. Manufactures of tin, japanery, gilt, plated, brass, copper, pewter, Side and Fire Arms, Slates, Pencils, Brushes, 25 per cent. A great number of articles are chargeable (by the act of 1832) with specific duties, exceeding 20 per cent on the cost; amongst these, are Muskets and Rifles, Glass, Sail Duck, Cotton Bagging, Oil Cloths, Iron Wire, Tacks, Brads, Nails, Spikes, &c. Iron, Spirits, Sugar, Molasses, Wines, Oils, Hemp, Beef, Pork, Cheese, Lard, Alum, Copperas, Salt, Coal, Paper, Books, Shoes, Boots, &c. &c. On all the foregoing, and all others chargeable with a duty amounting to over 20 per cent. on the cost, the reduction commences on the first day of January 1834, and will be completed, in June 1842.

On all articles where by existing laws the duty is so much per cent. on the cost, the application of the new bill will be easy. Woollens, by existing laws are to pay 50 per cent. A cloth costing three dollars a yard would at that rate pay \$1 50 per yard; but on the 1st of January next, 10 per cent. of the excess above 20 per cent. is to be removed. This leaves 47 per cent., and a cloth costing three dollars, will pay \$1 41. After 1835 a cloth of like cost pays \$1 32. After 1837 it pays \$1 23—and after 1839, 14 duty per yard. After 1841, 27 cents are removed, and in June 1842, 27 cents more, leaving the duty, thenceforward, 60 cents the yard, which is 20 per cent. in the case supposed, of a cloth costing three dollars.

Next, how will Mr. Clay's bill affect the duties on articles having a minimum cost established? Take the case of Cottons costing 10 cents the square yard. The minimum is thirty cents, and the rate of duty 25 per cent. The amount of duty by existing laws, would therefore be 7 1-2 cents a yard, equal to 75 per cent. on Cottons costing ten cents the square yard. Here the excess is 55 per cent. One tenth of this or 5 1-2 per cent. must be removed, after 1835—and a similar reduction must take place after 1835—1837 and 1839. The remaining excess, viz. 33 per cent. is to be removed one half at the end of 1841, the other half in June 1842, and thenceforward the duty is to be 20 per cent. on the cost, equal to 2 cents a yard on Cottons costing 10 cents.

Again, in the case of specific duties, as of Paper, which is charged by the pound, and as the report states, equal to an average duty of 108 per cent. The excess, above 20 per cent. viz. 88 per cent. is to be reduced by 10 per cent. every two years, like the rest, until the close of 1841, when one half of the remaining excess is removed, and the residue in June 1842, and thenceforward, the duty to be 20 per cent. ad valorem.

2. Mr. Clay's bill contains a list of free articles, but imposes no duty whatever, upon articles made free by existing laws. Tea and Coffee will therefore be admitted free, by virtue of the act of 1832, though not named in the new bill.

3. Besides the articles which are to pay more than 20 per cent. and those which are free, by the act of 1832, may pay duty, but less than 20 per cent. All such remain at their present rates.

In case, however, a deficiency of revenue should occur, prior to June 1842, such deficiency may be supplied by raising to 20 per cent. the duties on articles subject to a less rate than 20 per cent. And in case of an excess of revenue, such excess may be removed by reducing or removing the duties on all articles subject to a less rate than 20 per cent. This provision will operate on articles not protected.

If Mr. Clay's bill should remain unaltered, after 1842, the protection of agriculture, manufactures, and generally the products of domestic industry, will consist of a cash duty, of twenty per cent. on the value of imported fabrics, at the port where entered.

Conn. Courant.

The following is the concluding part of the speech of Mr. Webster on the Bill to provide for the Collection of the Revenue:—

The honorable gentleman, sir, from South Carolina, has referred to two incidents connected with the proceedings of the Convention at Philadelphia, which he thinks are evidence to show that the power of protecting manufactures, by laying duties, and by commercial regulations, was not intended to be given by Congress. The first is, as he says, that a power to protect manufactures was expressly proposed, but not granted. I think, sir, the gentleman is quite mistaken in relation to this part of the proceedings of the Convention. The whole history of the occurrence to which he alludes is simply this: Towards the conclusion of the Convention, after the provisions of the constitution had been mainly agreed upon, after the power to lay duties and the power to regulate commerce had both been granted, a long list of propositions was made, and referred to the committee, containing various miscellaneous powers, some or all of which it was thought might be properly vested in Congress.—Among these, was a power to establish a university; to grant charters of incorporation; to regulate stage coaches on the post roads; and also the power to which the gentleman refers, and which is expressed in these words: "To establish public institutions, rewards, and immunities, for the promotion of agriculture, commerce, trades, and manufactures." The committee made no report on this or various other propositions in the same list.—But the only inference from this omission is, that neither the committee nor the Convention thought it proper to authorize Congress "to establish public institutions, rewards and immunities" for the promotion of manufactures, and other interests. The Convention supposed it had done enough, at any rate it had done all it intended, when it had given to Congress, in general terms, the power to lay imposts and the power to regulate trade. It is not to be argued, from its omission to give more, that it meant to take back what it had already given. It had given the impost power; it had given the regulation of trade; and it did not deem it necessary to give the further and distinct power of establishing public institutions.

The other fact, sir, on which the gentleman relies, is the declaration of Mr. Martin, to the Legislature of Maryland. The gentleman supposes Mr. Martin to have urged against the constitution that it did not contain the power of protection. But, if the gentleman will look again at what Mr. Martin said, he will find, I think, that what Mr. Martin complained of was, that the constitution, by its prohibitions on the States, had taken away from the States themselves the power of protecting their own manufactures by duties on imports. This is undoubtedly true; but I find no expression of Mr. Martin intimating that the constitution had not conferred on Congress the same power which it had thus taken from the States.

But, sir, let us go to the first Congress; let us look in upon this and the other House, at the first session of their organization. We see in both houses men distinguished among the framers, friends, and advocates, of the constitution. We see in both those who had drawn, discussed, and matured the instrument in the Convention, explained and elected it before the people, and were now elected members of Congress to put the new Government into motion, and to carry the powers of the constitution into beneficial execution.

At the head of the Government was Washington himself, who had been President of the Convention, and in his cabinet were others most thoroughly acquainted with the history of the constitution, and distinguished for the part taken in its discussion.

If these persons were not acquainted with the meaning of the constitution; if they did not understand the work of their own hands, who can understand it, or who shall now interpret it to us?

Sir, the volume which records the proceedings and debates of the first session of the House of Representatives, lies before me. I open it, and I find that, having provided for the administration of the necessary oaths, the very first measure proposed for consideration is, the laying of imposts; and in the very first Committee of the Whole into which the House of Representatives ever resolved itself, on this its earliest subject, and in this its very first debate, the duty of so laying the imposts as to encourage manufactures was advanced, and enlarged upon by almost every speaker; and doubted or denied by none. The first gentleman who suggests this as the clear duty of Congress, and as an object necessary to be attended to, is Mr. Fitzsimons, of Pennsylvania; the second Mr. White of Virginia; the third Mr. Tucker of South Carolina.

But the great leader, sir, on this occasion, was Mr. Madison. Was he likely to know the intentions of the convention and the people? Was he likely to understand the constitution?

At the second sitting of the committee, Mr. Madison explained his own opinions of the duty of Congress, fully and explicitly. I must not detain you, sir, with more than a few short extracts from these opinions, but they are such as are clear, intelligible, and decisive.

"The States," says he, "that are most advanced in population, and ripe for manufactures, ought to have their particular interest attended to, in some degree. While these States retained the power of making regulations of trade, they had the power to cherish

such institutions. By adopting the present constitution, they have thrown the exercise of this power into other hands; they must have done this with an expectation that those interests would not be neglected here."

In another report of the same speech, Mr. Madison is represented as using still stronger language; as saying that the constitution, having taken this power away from the States, and conferred it on Congress, it would be a fraud on the States and on the people, were Congress to refuse to exercise it.

Mr. Madison argues, sir, on this early and interesting occasion, very justly and liberally in favor of the general principles of unrestricted commerce. But he argues also, with equal force and clearness, for certain important exceptions to these general principles.

The first, sir, respects those manufactures which had been brought forward under encouragement by the State Governments. "It would be cruel," says Mr. Madison, "to neglect them, and to divert their industry into other channels, for it is not possible for the hand of man to shift from one employment to another without being injured by the change." Again: "There may be some manufactures which, being once formed, can advance towards perfection without any adventitious aid; while others, for want of the fostering hand of Government will be unable to go on at all. Legislative provision, therefore, will be necessary to collect the proper objects for this purpose; and this will form another exception to my general principle." And again: "The next exception that occurs is one on which great stress is laid by some well informed men, and this with great plausibility; that each nation should have, within itself, the means of defence, independent of foreign supplies; that, in whatever relates to the operations of war, no State ought to depend upon a precarious supply from any part of the world. There may be some truth in this remark, and therefore it is proper for legislative attention."

In the same debate, sir, Mr. Burk, from South Carolina, supported a duty on hemp, for the express purpose of encouraging its growth on the strong lands of South Carolina. "Cotton," he said, "was also in contemplation among them, and if good seed could be procured, he hoped might succeed." Afterwards, sir, the cotton seed was obtained, its culture was protected, and it did succeed. Mr. Smith, a very distinguished member from the same State, observed: "It has been said, and justly, that the States which adopted this constitution expected its administration would be conducted with a favorable hand. The manufacturing States wished the encouragement of manufactures; the maritime States the encouragement of ship-building; and the agricultural States the encouragement of agriculture."

Sir, I will detain the Senate by reading no more extracts from these debates. I have already shown a majority of the members of South Carolina, in this very first session, acknowledging this power of protection, voting for its exercise, and proposing its extension to their own products. Similar propositions came from Virginia; and, indeed, sir, in the whole debate, at whatever page you open the volume, you find the power admitted, and you find it applied to the protection of particular articles, or not applied, according to the discretion of Congress. No man denied the power—no man doubted it; the only questions were, in regard to the several articles proposed to be taxed, whether they were fit subjects for protection, and what the amount of that protection ought to be. Will gentlemen, sir, now answer the argument drawn from those proceedings of the first Congress? Will they undertake to deny that that Congress did not act on the avowed principle of protection? Or, if they admit it, will they tell us how those who framed the constitution fell, thus early, into this great mistake about its meaning? Will they tell us how it should happen that they had so soon forgotten their own sentiments, and their own purposes? I confess I have seen no answer to this argument, nor any respectable attempt to answer it. And, sir, how did this debate terminate? What law was passed? There it stands, sir, among the statutes, the second law in the book. It has a preamble, and that preamble expressly recites, that the duties which it imposes are laid "for the support of Government, for the discharge of the debts of the United States, and the encouragement and protection of manufactures."—Until, sir, this early legislation, thus unequivocal with the constitution itself, thus full and explicit, can be explained away, no man can doubt of the meaning of that instrument.

Mr. President, this power of discrimination, thus admitted, avowed, and practised upon, in the first revenue act, has never been denied or doubted until within a few years past. It was not at all doubted, in 1816, when it became necessary to adjust the revenue to a state of peace. On the contrary, the power was then exercised, not without opposition as to its expediency, but, as far as I remember, or have understood, without the slightest opposition founded on any supposed want of constitutional authority. Certainly, S. Carolina did not doubt it. The tariff of 1816 was introduced, carried through, and established, under the lead of South Carolina. Even the minimum policy is of South Carolina origin. The honorable gentleman himself supported, and ably supported, the tariff of 1816. He has informed us, sir, that his speech on that occasion was sudden and off-hand, he being called upon by the request of a friend. I am sure the gentleman so remembers it, and that it was so; but there is, nevertheless, much method, arrangement, and clear exposition, in that extempore speech. It is very able, very, very much to the point, and very decisive. And in another speech, delivered two months earlier, on the proposition to repeal the internal taxes, the honorable gentleman had touched the same subject and had declared, "that a certain encouragement ought to be extended, at least to our woollen and cotton manufactures." I do not quote these speeches, sir, for the purpose of showing that the honorable gentleman has changed his opinion; my object is other, and higher. I do it for the sake of saying, that that cannot be so plainly and palpably unconstitutional, as to warrant resistance to law, nullification, and revolution, which the honorable gentleman and his friends have heretofore agreed to, and acted upon, without doubt and without hesitation. Sir, it is no answer to say, that the tariff of 1816, was a revenue bill. So are they all revenue bills. The point is, & the truth is, that the tariff of 1816 like the rest, did dis-

criminate; it did distinguish one article from another; it did lay duties for protection. Look to the case of coarse cottons, under the minimum calculation; the duty on these was sixty to eighty per cent. Something besides revenue certainly was intended in this; and, in fact, the law cut up our whole commerce with India in that article. It is, sir, only within a few years that Carolina has denied the constitutionality of these protective laws. The gentleman himself has narrated to us the true history of her proceedings on this point. He says that, after the passing of the law of 1828, despairing then of being able to abolish the system of protection, political men went forth among the people, and set up the doctrine that the system was unconstitutional. "And the People," says the honorable gentleman, "received the doctrine." This, I believe is true, sir. The people did then receive the doctrine; they had never entertained it before. Down to that period, the constitutionality of these laws had been no more doubted in South Carolina, than elsewhere.—And I suspect it is true, sir, and I deem it a great misfortune, that, to the present moment, a great portion of the people of the State have never yet seen more than one side of the argument. I believe that thousands of honest men are involved in scenes now passing, led away by one-sided views of the question, and following their leaders by the impulses of an unlimited confidence. Depend upon it, sir, if we can avoid the shock of arms, a day for reconsideration and reflection will come; truth and reason will act with their accustomed force, and the public opinion of South Carolina will be restored to its usual constitutional and patriotic tone.

But, sir, I hold South Carolina to her ancient, her cool, her uninfluenced, her deliberate opinions. I hold her to her own admissions, nay, to her own claims and pretensions, in 1789, in the first Congress, and to her acknowledgments and avowed sentiments thro' a long series of succeeding years. I hold her to the principles on which she led Congress to act in 1816; or, if she has changed her own opinions, I claim some respect for those who still retain the same opinions. I say she is precluded from asserting that doctrines which she has herself so long and so ably sustained, are plain, palpable, and dangerous violations of the constitution.

Mr. President, if the friends of nullification should be able to propagate their opinions, and give them practical effect, they would, in my judgment, prove themselves the most skilful "architects of ruin," the most effectual extinguishers of high raised expectation, the greatest blasters of human hopes, which any age has produced. They would stand up to proclaim, in tones which would pierce the ears of half the human race, that the last great experiment of representative government had failed. They would send forth sounds, at the hearing of which the doctrine of the divine right of kings would feel, even in its grave, a returning sensation of vitality and resuscitation. Millions of eyes, of those who now feed their inherent love of liberty on the success of the American example, would turn away from beholding our dismemberment, and find no place on earth whereon to rest their gratified sight. Amidst the incantations and orgies of nullification, secession, disunion, and revolution, would be celebrated the funeral rites of constitutional and republican liberty.

But, sir, if the Government do its duty; if it act with firmness and with moderation, these opinions cannot prevail. Be assured, sir, be assured, that, among the political sentiments of this people, the love of union is still uppermost. They will stand fast by the constitution, and by those who defend it. I rely on no temporary expedients—on no political combination—but I rely on the true American feeling, the genuine patriotism of the people, and the imperative decision of the public voice. Disorder and confusion, indeed, may arise; scenes of commotion and contest are threatened, and perhaps may come. With my whole heart, I pray for the continuance of the domestic peace and quiet of the country. I desire most ardently the restoration of affection and harmony to all its parts. I desire that every citizen of the whole country may look to this Government with no other sentiments but those of grateful respect and attachment. But I cannot yield, even to kind feelings, the cause of the constitution, the true glory of the country, and the great trust which we hold in our hands for succeeding ages. If the constitution cannot be maintained without meeting these scenes of commotion and contest, however unwelcome, they must come. We cannot, we must not, we dare not omit to do that which, in our judgment, the safety of the Union requires. Not regardless of consequences, we must yet meet consequences; seeing the hazards which surround the discharge of public duty, it must yet be discharged. For myself, sir, I shun no responsibility justly devolving on me, here or elsewhere, in attempting to maintain the cause. I am tied to it by indissoluble bands of affection and duty, and I shall cheerfully partake in its fortunes and its fate. I am ready to perform my own appropriate part whenever and wherever the occasion may call on me, and to take my chance among those upon whom blows may fall first and fall thickest. I shall exert every faculty I possess in aiding to prevent the constitution from being nullified, destroyed, or impaired; and even should I see it fall, I will still, with a voice, feeble perhaps, but earnest as ever issued from human lips, and with fidelity and zeal, which nothing shall extinguish, call on the PEOPLE to come to its rescue.

**Interesting Incident.**—The following curious fact is reported by a gentleman from the Western part of the State. In August last, a young gentleman in company with his sister and her husband, visited Niagara Falls. While rambling round this tremendous scene, where the sublime and the terrible predominate over all other sentiments, he undertook to seek, in a wild spirit of adventure, a new view of the cataract, from a position under the Table Rock and about half way down the precipice. Disregarding the remonstrances of his friends, he was threading the edge of the cliff, which overhung the gulf of raging waters, when his foot slipped upon the spray wet moss, and he fell upon one knee, on the very brink. He saved himself, only by catching at a large shrub. The roots upon the farther side gave way, and while endeavoring to maintain his balance by seizing hold of the moss and slender roots, he discovered in a crevice from which he had torn the shrub, eight Spanish dollars, of an ancient date, whose sleep of ages was thus most unceremoniously disturbed. After securing his prize, he extricated himself from his perilous situation, and rejoined his friends.